

REMARKS

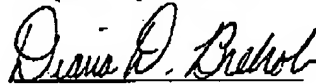
The Examiner has rejected claims 1 and 3 under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting over claim 3 of U.S. Patent 6,640,793. The Examiner has stated that a terminal disclaimer may be used to overcome a rejection based on a nonstatutory double patenting ground provided the conflicting application or patent is shown to be commonly owned with this application. The Examiner has allowed claims 4-10. The Examiner has objected to claim 2 as depending upon a rejected base claim.

I hereby declare that U.S. Patent 6,640,793 and the instant application, 10/065,671 are currently owned by the same party, Ford Global Technologies, LLC. Both U.S. Patent 6,640,793 and application 10/065,671 have the same inventive entity, namely, Kotwicki, Kabat, Shaikh, Stoll, and Tabaczynski. Concurrent with the present amendment, Applicants file a terminal disclaimer, form PTO/SB/26. Applicants submit that the provisions of 37 CFR 1.321(c) are fulfilled and respectfully request that the Examiner's rejections of claims 1 and 3 be withdrawn. Applicants further submit that claim 2, which depends from claim 1, is now also in allowable form. Applicants request that the Examiner's objection to claim 2 be withdrawn.

No other art is cited in the Office Action. Based on the foregoing comments, the above-identified application is believed to be in condition for allowance, and such allowance is courteously solicited. If any further amendment is necessary to advance prosecution and place this case in allowable condition, the Examiner is courteously requested to contact the undersigned by fax or telephone at the number listed below.

Please charge any cost incurred in the filing of this Amendment, along with any other costs, to Deposit Account 06-1510. If there are insufficient funds in this account, please charge the fees to Deposit Account 06-1505.

Respectfully submitted,



Diana Brehob
Registration No. 51,496
Agent for Applicants

Date: 4/15/2004
Ford Global Technologies, LLC
600 Parklane Towers East
Dearborn, Michigan 48126
Phone: 1-313-322-1879
Fax: 1-313-322-7162

- 2 of 3
(10/065671.)